

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063 To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
UP	AA	2,090,923	8/37	Wappler			
	AB	3,178,728	4/65	Christensen			
	AC	3,579,643	5/71	Morgan			
	AD	3,776,230	12/73	Neeffe			
	AE	3,807,390	4/74	Ostrowski et al.			
	AF	3,856,015	12/74	Iglesias			
	AG	3,867,728	2/75	Substad et al.			
	AH	3,879,767	4/75	Substad			
	AI	3,886,600	6/75	Kahn et al.			
	AJ	3,938,198	2/76	Kahn et al.			
	AK	3,945,375	3/76	Banko			
	AL	3,987,499	10/76	Scharbach et al.			
	AM	3,992,725	11/76	Homsy			
	AN	4,043,342	8/97	Morrison, Jr.			
	AO	4,074,718	2/78	Morrison, Jr.			
	AP	4,085,466	4/78	Goodfellow et al.			
UP	AQ	4,129,470	12/78	Homsy			
	AR	4,134,406	1/79	Iglesias			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
UP	AS	0 257 116 A1	3/88	EPO				
	AT	0 274 705 A1	7/88	EPO				
	AU	0 479 482 A1	4/92	EPO				
UP	AV	0 521 595 A2	1/93	EPO				
	AW	0 542 412 A1	5/93	EPO				

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	AX	

Examiner Signature <i>M. P. Hiley</i>	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>10/112,063</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
NP	BA	4,224,696	9/80	Murray et al.			
	BB	4,224,697	9/80	Murray et al.			
	BC	4,326,529	4/82	Doss et al.			
	BD	4,344,193	8/82	Kenny			
	BE	4,362,160	12/82	Hiltebrandt			
	BF	4,378,220	3/83	Matvias			
	BG	4,381,007	4/83	Doss			
	BH	4,397,314	8/83	Vaguine			
	BI	4,405,314	9/83	Cope			
	BJ	4,476,862	10/84	Pao			
	BK	4,483,338	11/84	Bloom et al.			
	BL	4,517,965	5/85	Ellison			
	BM	4,517,975	5/85	Garito et al.			
	BN	4,590,934	5/86	Malis et al.			
	BO	4,593,691	6/86	Lindstrom et al.			
	BP	4,597,379	7/86	Kihn et al.			
	BQ	4,601,705	7/86	McCoy			
	BR	4,651,734	3/87	Doss et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
NP	BS	0 558 297 A2	9/93	EPO				
	BT	0 566 450 A1	10/93	EPO				
	BU	0 572 131 A1	12/93	EPO				
NP	BV	0 682 910 A1	11/95	EPO				
	BW	0 479 482 B1	5/96	EPO				

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	BX	

Examiner Signature: <u>M. P. Kelly</u>	Date Considered: <u>12/15/06</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>10/710,063</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
<u>MP</u>	CA	4,737,146	4/88	Amaki et al.			
	CB	4,811,733	3/89	Borsanyi et al.			
	CC	4,815,462	3/89	Clark			
	CD	4,838,859	6/89	Strassmann			
	CE	4,846,175	7/89	Frimberger			
	CF	4,873,976	10/89	Schreiber			
	CG	4,894,063	1/90	Nashef			
	CH	4,895,148	1/90	Bays et al.			
	CI	4,907,585	3/90	Schachar			
	CJ	4,907,589	3/90	Cosman			
	CK	4,924,865	5/90	Bays et al.			
	CL	4,944,727	7/90	McCoy			
	CM	4,950,234	8/90	Fujioka et al.			
	CN	4,955,882	9/90	Hakky			
	CO	4,966,597	10/90	Cosman			
	CP	4,976,709	12/90	Sand			
<u>MP</u>	CQ	4,976,715	12/90	Bays et al.			
	CR	4,998,933	3/91	Eggers et al.			


Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
<u>MP</u>	CS	0 729 730 A1	9/96	EPO				
	CT	0 737 487 A2	10/96	EPO				
	CU	0 783 903 A1	7/97	EPO				
	CV	1,122,634	9/56	France				
<u>MP</u>	CW	2,645,008	3/89	France				

Examiner Signature <u>H. R. Sharkey</u>	Date Considered <u>12/15/06</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063 <u>To be assigned</u>
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
NRP	DA	5,007,908	4/91	Rydell			
	DB	5,009,656	4/91	Reimels			
	DC	5,085,657	2/92	Ben-Simhon			
	DD	5,085,659	2/92	Rydell			
	DE	5,098,430	3/92	Fleenor			
	DF	5,100,402	3/92	Fan			
	DG	5,103,804	4/92	Abele et al.			
	DH	5,114,402	5/92	McCoy			
	DI	5,129,889	7/92	Hahn et al.			
	DJ	5,152,748	10/92	Chastagner			
	DK	5,178,620	1/93	Eggers et al.			
	DL	5,186,181	2/93	Franconi et al.			
	DM	5,191,883	3/93	Lennox et al.			
	DN	5,192,267	3/93	Shapira et al.			
	DO	5,201,729	4/93	Hertzmann et al.			
	DP	5,201,730	4/93	Easley et al.			
	DQ	5,201,731	4/93	Hakky			
	DR	5,213,097	5/93	Zeindler			

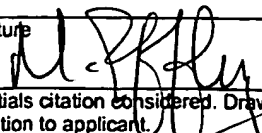
Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
NRP	DS	35 111 07	10/86	Germany				
	DT	36 321 97	3/88	Germany				
	DU	5-42166	5/93	Japan				
	DV	637118	12/78	USSR				
NRP	DW	1,340,451	12/73	UK				
	DX	2,164,473	3/86	UK				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/00
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>1412603</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
MP	EA	5,230,334	7/93	Klopotek			
	EB	5,242,439	9/93	Larsen et al.			
	EC	5,242,441	9/93	Avirall			
	ED	5,261,906	11/93	Pennino et al.			
	EE	5,267,994	12/93	Gentelia et al.			
	EF	5,275,151	1/94	Shockey et al.			
	EG	5,279,559	1/94	Barr			
	EH	5,284,479	2/94	de Jong			
	EI	5,304,169	4/94	Sand			
	EJ	5,308,311	5/94	Eggers et al.			
	EK	5,311,858	5/94	Adair			
	EL	5,320,115	6/94	Kenna			
	EM	5,323,778	6/94	Kandarpa et al.			
	EN	5,334,193	8/94	Nardella			
	EO	5,342,357	8/94	Nardella			
	EP	5,345,945	9/94	Hodgson et al.			
	EQ	5,348,554	9/94	Imran et al.			
	ER	5,352,868	10/94	Denen et al.			

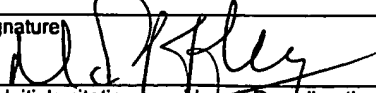
Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
UP	ES	WO 85/02762	7/85	WIPO				
	ET	WO 92/05828	4/92	WIPO				
	EU	WO 92/10142	6/92	WIPO				
	EV	WO 93/01774	2/93	WIPO				
MP	EW	WO 93/16648	9/93	WIPO				
	EX	WO 93/20984	10/93	WIPO				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 010/712,063 To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
NP	FA	5,354,331	10/94	Schachar			
	FB	5,364,395	11/94	West, Jr.			
	FC	5,366,443	11/94	Eggers et al.			
	FD	5,366,490	11/94	Edwards et al.			
	FE	5,382,247	1/95	Cimino et al.			
	FF	5,389,100	2/95	Bacich et al.			
	FG	5,397,304	3/95	Truckai			
	FH	5,401,272	3/95	Perkins			
	FI	5,415,633	5/95	Lazarus et al.			
	FJ	5,423,806	6/95	Dale et al.			
	FK	5,433,739	7/95	Sluijter et al.			
	FL	5,437,661	8/95	Rieser			
	FM	5,437,662	8/95	Nardella			
	FN	5,451,223	9/95	Ben-Simhon			
	FO	5,458,596	10/95	Lax et al.			
	FP	5,464,023	11/95	Viera			
	FQ	5,465,737	11/95	Schachar			
NP	FR	5,484,403	1/96	Yoakum et al.			

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
NP	FS	WO 95/01814	1/95	WIPO				
	FT	WO 95/13113	5/95	WIPO				
	FU	WO 95/18575	7/95	WIPO				
	FV	WO 95/20360	8/95	WIPO				
	FW	WO 95/25471	9/95	WIPO				
NP	FX	WO 95/30373	11/95	WIPO				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>10/712,063</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
MP	GA	5,484,432	1/96	Sand			
	GB	5,484,435	1/96	Fleenor et al.			
	GC	5,487,757	1/96	Truckai et al.			
	GD	5,498,258	3/96	Hakky et al.			
	GE	5,500,012	3/96	Brucker et al.			
	GF	5,507,812	4/96	Moore			
	GG	5,514,130	5/96	Baker			
	GH	5,524,338	6/96	Martyniuk et al.			
	GI	5,527,331	6/96	Kresch et al.			
	GJ	5,542,920	8/96	Cherif Cheikh			
	GK	5,569,242	10/96	Lax et al.			
	GL	5,599,346	2/97	Edwards et al.			
	GM	5,630,839	5/97	Corbett, III, et al.			
	GN	5,681,282	10/97	Eggers et al.			
	GO	5,683,366	11/97	Eggers et al.			
	GP	5,688,270	11/97	Yates et al.			
	GQ	5,697,909	12/97	Eggers et al.			
MP	GR	5,718,702	2/98	Edwards			

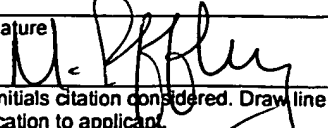
Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
MP	GS	WO 95/30377	11/95	WIPO				
	GT	WO 95/34259	12/95	WIPO				
	GU	WO 96/11638	4/96	WIPO				
	GV	WO 96/32051	10/96	WIPO				
	GW	WO 96/32885	10/96	WIPO				
MP	GX	WO 96/34559	11/96	WIPO				

Examiner Signature <u>M. P. Sharkey</u>	Date Considered <u>12/15/06</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>10/712,043</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned
(37 CFR §1.98(b))			

U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
NP	HA	5,782,795	7/98	Bays			
	HB	5,810,809	9/98	Rydell			
	HC	5,874,500	2/99	Rhee et al.			
	HD	5,888,220	3/99	Felt et al.			
	HE	5,980,504	11/99	Sharkey et al.			
	HF	6,007,570	12/99	Sharkey et al.			
	HG	6,073,051	6/00	Sharkey et al.			
	HH	6,095,149	8/00	Sharkey et al.			
	HI	6,099,514	8/00	Sharkey et al.			
	HJ	6,122,549	9/00	Sharkey et al.			
	HK	6,126,682	10/00	Sharkey et al.			
	HL	6,176,857	1/2001	Ashley			
	HM	6,258,086	7/2001	Ashley et al.			
	HN	6,264,650	7/2001	Hovda et al.			
	HO	6,283,961	9/2001	Underwood et al.			
	HP	6,350,262	2/2002	Ashley			
NP	HQ	5,486,161	1/23/96	Lax et al.			
	HR						

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
NP	HS	WO 96/34568	11/96	WIPO				
	HT	WO 96/34571	11/96	WIPO				
	HU	WO 96/39914	12/96	WIPO				
	HV	WO 97/06855	2/97	WIPO				
	HW	WO 97/07468	2/98	WIPO				
NP	HX	WO 98/17190	4/98	WIPO				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered <u>12/15/06</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>6172663</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

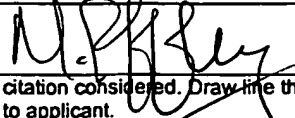
Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
<u>MP</u>	IA	Trimedyn, The Less Invasive Laser Advantage, Omni Spinal Introduction System.
	IB	PRNewswire (Dec. 12, 1994), Two Physicians Perform First Outpatient Cervical Disc Procedure Using Laser Technology.
	IC	Introduction to the LDD Disc Kit, Oct. 16, 1996.
	ID	Mayer et al., Lasers in Percutaneous Disc Surgery: Beneficial Technology or Gimmick?, vol. 25 No. 251 (1993) pp. 38-44.
	IE	Schatz et al., Preliminary Experience With Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression in the Treatment of Sciatica, vol. 38 No. 5, Oct. 1995, pp. 432-436.
	IF	Savitz M. A., Same-day Microsurgical Arthroscopic lateral-approach Laser-assisted (SMALL) Fluoroscopic Discectomy, vol. 80, Jun. 1994 pp. 1039-1045.
	IG	Bosacco et al., Functional Results of Percutaneous Laser Discectomy, Dec. 1996, pp. 825-828.
	IH	Sluijter M.E., The Use of Radiofrequency lesions For Pain Relief in Failed Back Patients, vol. 10 No. 1 (1988).
	II	Cosman et al., Theoretical Aspects of Radiofrequency lesions in the Dorsal Root Entry Zone, vol. 15 No. 6 (1984) pp. 945-950.
	IJ	Wilkins et al., Neurosurgery: Method of Making Nervous System Lesions, ch. 337, pp. 2490-2499.
	IK	Yonezawa et al., The System and Procedure of percutaneous Intradiscal Laser Nucleotomy, vol. 15 No. 5 (1990) pp. 1175-1185.
	IL	Gottlob et al., Lasers in Surgery and Medicine: Holmium:YAG Laser Ablation of Human Intervertebral Disc: Preliminary Evaluation, vol. 12, (1991) pp. 86-91.
	IM	Buchelt et al., Laser in Surgery and Medicine: Fluorescence Guided Excimer Laser Ablation of Intervertebral Discs In Vitro, vol. 11, (1991) pp. 280-286.
	IN	Choy et al., Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression: A New Therapeutic Modality, vol. 17 No. 8, (1992) pp. 949-956.
	IO	Sluijter et al., Persistent Pain, Modern Methods of Treatment: Treatment of Chronic Back and neck Pain, vol. 3, (1981) pp. 141-179.
	IP	Sluijter, Int Disabil Studies: The use of Radio Frequency Lesions For Pain Relief in Failed Back, vol. 10, Sep. 4, 1996, pp. 141-179.
	IQ	Schatz et al., CJS JCC Preliminary Experience With Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression in the Treatment of Sciatica, vol. 38 No. 5, Oct. 1995 pp. 432-436.
	IR	Sluyter, Radiofrequency Lesions in the Treatment of Cervical Pain Syndromes, Radionics, Inc. (1989).
	IS	Kelly L.E., Purification and Properties of a 23kDa Ca ²⁺ -binding Protein, (1990) 271, pp. 661-666.
	IT	Gehring W. J., Exploring the Homeobox, (1993), pp. 215-221.
	IU	Buchelt et al., Lasers in Surgery and Medicine: Erb:YAG and Hol:YAG Laser Ablation of Meniscus and Intervertebral Discs, vol. 12 No. 4, (1992) pp. 375-381.
	IV	Leu et al., Der Orthopade: Endoskopie der Wirbelsaule: Minimal-invasive Therapie, vol. 21, (1992) pp. 267-272.
<u>MP</u>	IW	Phillips et al., JMRI: MR Imaging of Ho: YAG Laser Discectomy with Histologic Correlation, vol. 3 No. 3, May/Jun. 1993.

Examiner Signature <u>[Signature]</u>	Date Considered <u>12/15/06</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063 To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

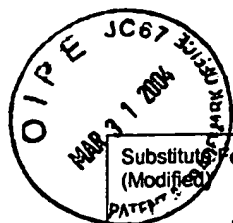
Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
MP	JA	Bromm et al., Human Neurobiology: Nerve Fibre Discharges, Cerebral Potentials and Sensations Induced by CO ₂ laser Stimulation, vol. 3, (1984) pp. 33-40.
	JB	Kolarik et al., Photonucleolysis of Intervertebral Disc and it's Herniation, vol. 51, (1990) pp. 69-71.
	JC	Wolgin et al., Excimer Ablation of Human Intervertebral Disc at 308 Nanometers, vol. 9, (1989) pp. 124-131.
	JD	Davis, Early experience with Laser Disc Decompression, vol. 79 No. 1, (1992) j. Florida M.A.
	JE	Quigley et al., Laser Discectomy: Comparison of System, vol. 19 No. 3 (1994) pp. 319-322.
	JF	Mehta et al., The Treatment of Chronic back Pain: A Preliminary survey of the Effect of Radiofrequency Denervation of the Posterior Vertebral Joints, vol. 34 (1979) pp. 768-775.
	JG	Patil et al., Percutaneous Discectomy Using the Electromagnetic Field Focusing Probe: A Feasibility Study.
	JH	McCulloch et al., CMA Journal: Percutaneous Radiofrequency Lumbar Rhizolysis (rhizotomy), vol. 116, Jan. 8, 1977.
	JI	Yonezawa et al., The System and Procedure of Percutaneous Intradiscal Laser Nucleotomy, vol. 15 No. 11 (1990).
	JJ	Sminia et al., Effects of 434 MHz Microwave Hyperthermia applied to the rat in the region of the cervical Spinal Cord, vol. 3 No. 5 (1987) pp. 441-452.
	JK	Sluijter et al., Treatment of Chronic Back and Neck Pain by Percutaneous Thermal Lesions, vol. 3 (1981).
	JL	Auhll, Richard A., "The Use of the Resectoscope in Gynecology." Biomedical Business International, Oct. 11, 1990, pp. 91-93.
	JM	Christian, C. et al., "Allograft Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction with Patellar Tendon: An Endoscopic Technique", Operative Techniques in Sports Medicine, vol. 1, No. 1, Jan. 1993, pp. 50-57.
	JN	Haupt, J. et al., "Experimental Study of Temperature Distributions and Thermal Transport During Radiofrequency Current Therapy of the Intervertebral Disc", Spine, vol. 21, No. 15, (1996), pp. 1808-1813.
MP	JO	Troussier, B. et al., "Percutaneous Intradiscal Radio-Frequency Thermocoagulation: A Cadaveric Study", Spine, vol. 20, No. 15, (Aug. 1995), pp. 1713-1718.
	JP	Beadling, L., "Bi-Polar electrosurgical devices: Sculpting the future of arthroscopy", Orthopedics today, vol. 17, No. 1, Jan. 1997, 4 pages.
	JQ	Ellman International Mfg., Inc., 1989, Catalog, pp. 1-15, 20.
	JR	Cosset, J.M., Resistive Radiofrequency (Low Frequency) Intertitial Heating (RF Technique), Interstitial Hyperthermia, Dec. 6, 1993, pp. 3-5, 37.
	JS	Attachment I: Competitive Literature on Generators with Bipolar Capabilities, IME Co., Ltd., pp. 60-86.
	JT	Attachment II: Competitive Literature on Bipolar Forceps and Footswitch Controls, IME Co., Ltd. pp. 87-104.
	JU	Gerber et al., Der Orthopade: Offene Laserchirurgie am Bewegungsapparat, vol. 25, (1996) pp. 56-63.

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. <u>10/72,063</u> To be assigned
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
<i>MP</i>	KA	Vorwerck et al., Laserablation des Nucleus Pulposus: Optische Eigenschaften von Degeneriertem Bandscheibengewebe im Wellenlangenbereich von 200 bis 2200 nm, vol. 151 No. 6, (1989) pp. 725-728.
<i>MP</i>	KB	"Answer and Counterclaim of Defendant TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP in Civil Action No. 01-558" (U.S. District Court, District of Columbia)

Examiner Signature <i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered <u>12/15/06</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Sheet 1 of 13Substitute Form PTO-1449
(Modified)U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Attorney's Docket No.

14170-038004

Application No.

10/712,063

**Information Disclosure Statement
by Applicant**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

(37 CFR §1.98(b))

Applicant

Hugh R. Sharkey et al.

Filing Date

November 14, 2003

Group Art Unit

To be assigned

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
WJP	AA	164,184	06/08/75	Kidder			
	AB	300,155	06/10/84	Starr			
	AC	371,664	10/18/87	Brannan et al.			
	AD	452,220	05/12/91	Gunning			
	AE	1,314,855	09/02/19	Carpenter			
	AF	1,366,756	01/25/21	Wappler			
	AG	1,731,627	10/15/29	Johnson et al			
	AH	1,735,271	11/12/29	Groff			
	AI	1,814,791	07/14/31	Ende			
	AJ	1,908,583	05/09/33	Wappler			
	AK	1,916,722	07/04/33	Ende			
	AL	1,932,258	10/24/33	Wappler			
	AM	1,943,543	01/16/34	McFadden			
	AN	1,983,669	12/11/34	Kimble			
	AO	2,002,594	05/28/35	Wappler et al.			
	AP	2,004,559	06/11/35	Wappler et al.			
	AQ	2,050,904	08/11/36	Trice			
	AR	2,056,377	10/06/36	Wappler			
	AS	2,224,464	12/10/40	Wolf			
	AT	2,275,167	03/03/42	Bierman			
	AU	2,888,928	06/02/59	Seiger			
	AV	3,152,590	10/13/64	Rodriguez Zurdo et al.			
	AW	3,163,165	12/29/64	Isikawa			
	AX	3,460,539	08/12/69	Anhalt			
WJP	AY	3,595,239	07/27/71	Petersen			
	AZ	3,655,032	04/11/72	Willis			

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

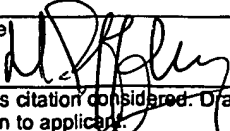
12/15/06

EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Substitute Disclosure Form (PTO-1449)

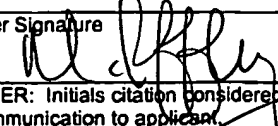
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

MP	BA	3,768,482	10/30/73	Shaw				
	BB	3,769,984	11/06/73	Muench				
	BC	3,801,766	04/02/74	Morrison				
	BD	3,815,604	06/11/74	O'Malley et al.				
	BE	3,828,780	08/13/74	Morrison				
	BF	3,870,047	03/11/75	Gonser				
	BG	3,901,242	08/26/75	Storz				
	BH	3,902,494	09/02/75	Haberlen et al.				
	BI	3,920,021	11/18/75	Hiltebrandt				
	BJ	3,920,022	11/18/75	Pastor				
	BK	3,938,527	02/17/76	Rioux et al.				
	BL	3,970,088	07/20/76	Morrison				
	BM	3,987,795	10/26/76	Morrison				
	BN	4,011,872	03/15/77	Komiya				
	BO	4,016,881	04/12/77	Roiux et al.				
	BP	4,034,762	07/12/77	Corsens et al.				
	BQ	4,040,426	08/09/77	Morrison				
	BR	4,060,086	11/29/77	Storz				
	BS	4,060,087	11/29/77	Hiltebrandt et al.				
	BT	4,060,088	11/29/77	Morrison				
	BU	4,116,198	09/26/78	Roos				
	BV	4,140,130	02/20/79	Storm III				
	BW	4,170,234	10/09/79	Graham				
	BX	4,181,131	01/01/80	Ogiu				
	BY	4,184,492	01/22/80	Meinke et al.				
MP	BZ	4,240,441	12/23/80	Khalil				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered <u>12/15/00</u>
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	


Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

MP	CA	4,301,802	11/24/81	Poler				
	CB	4,411,266	10/25/83	Cosman				
	CC	4,418,692	12/06/83	Guay				
	CD	4,427,006	01/24/84	Nottke				
	CE	4,448,198	05/15/84	Turner				
	CF	4,478,822	10/23/84	Haslam et al.				
	CG	4,524,770	06/25/85	Orandi				
	CH	4,545,374	10/08/85	Jacobson				
	CI	4,559,951	12/24/85	Dahl et al.				
	CJ	4,562,838	01/07/86	Walker				
	CK	4,565,200	01/21/86	Cosman				
	CL	4,643,186	02/17/87	Rosen et al.				
	CM	4,646,737	03/03/87	Hussein et al.				
	CN	4,672,962	06/16/87	Hershenson				
	CO	4,682,596	07/28/87	Bales et al.				
	CP	4,688,569	08/25/87	Rabinowitz				
	CQ	4,699,157	10/13/87	Shonk				
	CR	4,712,559	12/15/87	Turner				
	CS	4,719,914	01/19/88	Johnson				
	CT	4,735,201	04/05/88	O'Reilly				
	CU	4,753,223	06/28/88	Bremer				
	CV	4,754,752	07/05/88	Ginsburg et al.				
	CW	4,765,331	08/23/88	Petruzzi et al.				
	CX	4,769,005	09/06/88	Ginsburg et al.				
	CY	4,784,161	11/15/88	Skalsky et al.				
MP	CZ	4,800,899	01/31/89	Elliott				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

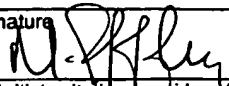
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

MP	DA	4,805,616	02/21/89	Pao				
	DB	4,811,743	03/14/89	Stevens				
	DC	4,823,791	04/25/89	D'Amelio et al.				
	DD	4,846,175	07/11/89	Frimberger				
	DE	4,860,744	08/29/89	Johnson et al.				
	DF	4,917,092	04/17/90	Todd et al.				
	DG	4,919,129	04/24/90	Weber et al.				
	DH	4,924,882	05/15/90	Donovan				
	DI	4,927,420	05/22/90	Newkirk et al.				
	DJ	4,936,301	06/26/90	Rexroth et al.				
	DK	4,943,290	07/24/90	Rexroth et al.				
	DL	4,950,267	08/21/90	Ishihara et al.				
	DM	4,955,378	09/11/90	Grasso				
	DN	4,976,711	12/11/90	Parins et al.				
	DO	5,007,908	04/16/91	Rydell				
	DP	5,013,312	05/07/91	Parins et al.				
	DQ	5,084,044	01/28/92	Quint				
	DR	5,084,043	01/28/92	Hertzmann et al.				
	DS	RE 33,925	05/12/92	Bales et al.				
	DT	5,122,138	06/16/92	Manwaring				
	DU	5,125,928	06/30/92	Parins et al.				
	DV	5,158,561	10/27/92	Rydell et al.				
	DW	5,163,938	11/17/92	Kambara et al.				
	DX	5,171,255	12/15/92	Rydell				
	DY	5,205,816	04/27/93	Dodson et al.				
MP	DZ	5,207,675	05/04/93	Canady				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	


Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

up	EA	5,211,625	05/18/93	Sakurai et al.			
	EB	5,241,972	09/07/93	Bonati			
	EC	5,254,121	10/19/93	Manevitz et al.			
	ED	5,273,524	12/28/93	Fox et al.			
	EE	5,277,696	01/11/94	Hagen			
	EF	5,281,213	01/25/94	Milder et al.			
	EG	5,281,218	01/25/94	Imran			
	EH	5,282,845	02/01/94	Bush et al.			
	EI	5,300,069	04/05/94	Hunsberger et al.			
	EJ	5,301,687	04/12/94	Wong et al.			
	EK	5,318,525	06/07/94	West et al.			
	EL	5,336,222	08/09/94	Durgin et al.			
	EM	5,364,839	11/15/94	Gerhart et al.			
	EN	5,383,876	01/24/95	Nardella			
	EO	5,383,923	01/24/95	Webster			
	EP	5,385,148	01/31/95	Lesh et al.			
	EQ	5,396,900	03/14/95	Slater et al.			
	ER	5,403,311	04/04/95	Abele et al.			
	ES	5,409,008	04/25/95	Svenson et al.			
	ET	5,421,819	06/06/95	Edwards et al.			
	EU	5,423,808	06/13/95	Edwards et al.			
	EV	5,423,811	06/13/95	Imran et al.			
	EW	5,423,815	06/13/95	Fugo			
	EX	5,423,882	06/13/95	Jackman et al.			
up	EY	5,431,649	07/11/95	Mulier et al.			
	EZ	5,433,708	07/18/95	Nichols et al.			

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

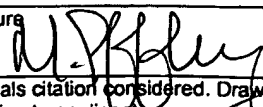
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

144P	FA	5,437,664	08/01/95	Cohen et al.			
	FB	5,441,499	08/15/95	Fritzsche			
	FC	5,454,809	10/03/95	Janssen			
	FD	5,456,682	10/10/95	Edwards et al.			
	FE	5,458,597	10/17/95	Edwards et al.			
	FF	5,470,309	11/28/95	Edwards et al.			
	FG	5,472,426	12/05/95	Bonati et al.			
	FH	5,472,441	12/05/95	Edwards et al.			
	FI	5,487,385	01/30/96	Avitall			
	FJ	5,520,645	05/28/96	Imran et al.			
	FK	5,522,815	06/04/96	Durgin			
	FL	5,540,681	07/30/96	Strul et al.			
	FM	5,542,945	08/06/96	Fritzsche			
	FN	5,545,161	08/13/96	Imran			
	FO	5,545,193	08/13/96	Fleischman et al.			
	FP	5,569,244	10/29/96	Hahnen			
	FQ	5,569,245	10/29/96	Guglielmi et al.			
	FR	5,571,147	11/05/96	Sluijter et al.			
	FS	5,573,533	11/12/96	Strul			
	FT	5,582,609	12/10/96	Swanson et al.			
	FU	5,584,830	12/17/96	Ladd et al.			
	FV	5,601,572	02/11/97	Middleman et al.			
	FW	5,603,709	02/18/97	Johnson			
	FX	5,607,422	03/04/97	Smeets et al.			
	FY	5,637,090	06/10/97	McGee et al.			
144P	FZ	5,643,255	07/01/97	Organ			

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

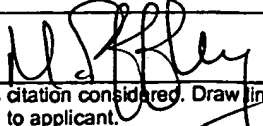
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

MP	GA	5,673,707	10/07/97	Chandrasekaran				
	GB	5,676,662	10/14/97	Fleischhacker et al.				
	GC	5,680,860	10/28/87	Imran				
	GD	5,683,384	11/04/97	Gough et al.				
	GE	5,687,723	11/18/97	Avitall				
	GF	5,688,267	11/18/97	Panescu et al.				
	GG	5,693,050	12/02/97	Speiser				
	GH	5,694,945	12/09/97	Ben-Haim				
	GI	5,697,281	12/16/97	Eggers et al.				
	GJ	5,697,536	12/16/97	Eggers et al.				
	GK	5,697,882	12/16/97	Eggers et al.				
	GL	5,735,792	04/07/98	Vander Hoek et al.				
	GM	5,697,927	12/16/97	Imran et al.				
	GN	5,700,262	12/23/97	Acosta et al.				
	GO	5,738,683	04/14/98	Osypka				
	GP	5,741,245	04/21/98	Cozean et al.				
	GQ	5,743,903	04/28/98	Stern et al.				
	GR	5,762,626	06/09/98	Lundquist et al.				
	GS	5,766,153	06/16/98	Eggers et al.				
	GT	5,779,646	07/14/98	Koblish et al.				
	GU	5,779,699	07/14/98	Lipson				
	GV	5,782,795	07/21/98	Bays				
	GW	5,785,705	07/28/98	Baker				
	GX	5,797,903	08/25/98	Swanson et al.				
	GY	5,807,306	09/15/98	Shapland et al.				
MP	GZ	5,810,802	09/22/98	Panescu et al.				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	


Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

MP	HA	5,836,875	11/17/98	Webster				
	HB	5,836,892	11/17/98	Lorenzo				
	HC	5,836,947	11/17/98	Fleischman et al.				
	HD	5,853,409	12/29/98	Swanson et al.				
	HE	5,857,991	01/12/99	Grothoff et al.				
	HF	5,860,951	01/19/99	Eggers et al.				
	HG	5,860,974	01/19/99	Abele				
	HH	5,861,002	01/19/99	Desai				
	HI	5,871,469	02/16/99	Eggers et al.				
	HJ	5,871,501	02/16/99	Leschinsky et al.				
	HK	5,873,855	02/23/99	Eggers et al.				
	HL	5,882,346	03/16/99	Pomeranz et al.				
	HM	5,885,217	03/23/99	Gisselberg et al.				
	HN	5,885,278	03/23/99	Fleischman				
	HO	5,888,198	03/30/99	Eggers et al.				
	HP	5,891,095	04/06/99	Eggers et al.				
	HQ	5,897,553	04/27/99	Mulier et al.				
	HR	5,902,272	05/11/99	Eggers et al.				
	HS	5,910,129	06/08/99	Koblish et al.				
	HT	5,916,158	06/29/99	Webster				
	HU	5,916,166	06/29/99	Reiss				
	HV	5,921,924	07/13/99	Avitall				
	HW	5,935,123	08/10/99	Edwards et al.				
	HX	5,980,471	11/09/99	Jafari				
	HY	5,980,504	11/09/99	Sharkey et al.				
MP	HZ	5,991,650	11/23/99	Swanson et al.				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

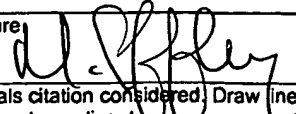
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

MP	IA	5,993,424	11/30/99	Lorenzo et al.				
	IB	6,004,319	12/21/99	Goble et al.				
	IC	6,007,570	12/28/99	Sharkey et al.				
	ID	6,010,493	01/04/00	Snoke				
	IE	6,014,579	01/11/00	Pomeranz et al.				
	IF	6,017,361	01/25/00	Mikus et al.				
	IG	6,023,638	02/08/00	Swanson				
	IH	6,033,397	03/07/00	Laufer et al.				
	II	6,036,688	03/14/00	Edwards				
	IJ	6,048,329	04/11/00	Thompson et al.				
	IK	6,048,340	4/11/00	Miyagi				
	IL	6,053,172	04/25/00	Hovda et al.				
	IM	6,056,744	05/02/00	Edwards				
	IN	6,073,051	06/06/00	Sharkey et al.				
	IO	6,079,417	06/27/00	Fugo				
	IP	6,093,185	07/25/00	Ellis et al.				
	IQ	6,095,149	08/01/00	Sharkey et al.				
	IR	6,099,514	08/08/00	Sharkey et al.				
	IS	6,102,046	08/15/00	Weinstein et al.				
	IT	6,105,581	08/22/00	Eggers et al.				
	IU	6,106,522	08/22/00	Fleischman et al.				
	IV	6,113,591	09/05/00	Whayne et al.				
	IW	6,122,549	09/19/00	Sharkey et al.				
	IX	6,126,682	10/03/00	Sharkey et al.				
	IY	6,135,999	10/24/00	Fanton et al.				
MP	IZ	6,165,139	12/26/00	Damadian				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

JP	JA	6,168,593	01/02/01	Sharkey et al.			
	JB	6,171,306	01/09/01	Swanson et al.			
	JC	6,179,836	01/30/01	Eggers et al.			
	JD	6,203,525	03/20/01	Whayne et al.			
	JE	6,217,528	04/17/01	Koblish et al.			
	JF	6,224,592	05/01/01	Eggers et al.			
	JG	6,241,754	06/05/01	Swanson et al.			
	JH	6,245,061	06/12/01	Panescu et al.			
	JI	6,245,069	06/12/01	Gminder			
	JJ	6,261,311	07/17/01	Sharkey et al.			
	JK	6,264,651	07/24/01	Underwood et al.			
	JL	6,270,476	08/07/01	Santoianini et al.			
	JM	6,273,886	08/14/01	Edwards et al.			
	JN	6,277,112	08/21/01	Underwood et al.			
	JO	6,283,960	09/04/01	Ashley			
	JP	6,283,961	09/04/01	Underwood et al.			
	JQ	6,287,306	09/11/01	Kroll et al.			
	JR	6,290,715	09/18/01	Sharkey et al.			
	JS	2001/0023348	09/20/01	Ashley et al.			
	JT	2001/0029370	10/11/01	Hodva et al.			
	JU	6,304,785	10/16/01	McCreery et al.			
	JV	2001/0031963	10/18/01	Sharkey et al.			
	JW	6,308,091	10/23/01	Avitall			
	JX	6,332,880	12/25/01	Yang et al.			
	JY	2002/0019626	02/14/02	Sharkey et al.			
NP	JZ	2002/0022830	02/21/02	Sharkey et al.			

Examiner Signature: 	Date Considered: 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

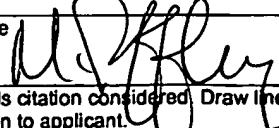
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned

NP	KA	6,355,032	03/12/02	Hovda et al.				
	KB	6,379,350	04/30/02	Sharkey et al.				
	KC	6,416,508	07/09/02	Eggers et al.				
	KD	6,428,512	08/06/02	Anderson et al.				
	KE	6,440,127	08/27/02	McGovern et al.				
	KF	6,440,129	08/27/02	Simpson				
	KG	2002/0120259	08/29/02	Lettice et al.				
	KH	6,461,357	10/08/02	Sharkey et al.				
	KI	2002/0188284	12/12/02	To et al.				
	KJ	2002/0188291	12/12/02	Uchida et al.				
	KK	2003/0014050	01/16/03	Sharkey et al.				
	KL	6,547,810	04/15/03	Sharkey et al.				
	KM	6,562,028	05/13/03	Nield et al.				
	KN	6,604,003	08/05/03	Fredricks et al.				
	KO	6,638,276	10/28/03	Sharkey et al.				
	KP	6,645,203	11/11/03	Sharkey et al.				
	KQ	6,645,204	11/11/03	Sharkey et al.				
NP	KR	6,648,884	11/18/03	To et al.				

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
NP	KS	2,188,668	11/16/95	CA				
	KT							
NP	KU	3918316	03/22/90	DE				
	KV	38 38 840	05/23/90	DE			Abstract Yes	
	KW	41 08 269	06/17/92	DE			Abstract Yes	
	KX	44 25 015	01/25/96	DE			Abstract Yes	
NP	KY	196 30 601	02/06/97	DE			Abstract Yes	
Examiner Signature <i>W. P. Kelly</i>				Date Considered 12/15/06				
EXAMINER: Initials citation/considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit To be assigned


Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
NP	LA	0 013 605	07/23/80	EPO				
	LB	0 257 116	03/02/88	EPO				
	LC	0 274 705	07/20/88	EPO			Abstract Yes	
	LD	0 392 837	10/17/90	EPO				
	LE	0 407 057	01/09/91	EPO				
	LF	0 439 263	07/31/91	EPO				
	LG	0 521 595	01/07/93	EPO				
	LH	0 648 475	04/19/95	EPO				
	LI	0 682 910	11/22/95	EPO			Abstract Yes	
	LJ	0 737 487	10/16/96	EPO				
	LK	2 313 949	01/07/77	FR				
	LL	1,583,397	01/28/81	GB				
	LM	2,160,102	12/18/85	GB				
	LN	WO 81/03271	11/26/81	WIPO				
	LO	WO 82/02488	08/05/82	WIPO				
	LP	WO 84/03829	10/11/84	WIPO				
	LQ	WO 92/05828	04/16/92	WIPO				
	LR	WO 93/15664	08/19/93	WIPO				
	LS	WO 94/10921	05/26/94	WIPO				
	LT	WO 95/10225	04/20/95	WIPO				
	LU	WO 95/10321	04/20/95	WIPO				
	LV	WO 95/10981	04/27/95	WIPO				
	LW	WO 96/00036	01/04/96	WIPO				
	LX	WO 96/00040	01/04/96	WIPO				
NP	LY	WO 96/29946	10/03/96	WIPO				
	LZ	WO 96/34571	11/07/96	WIPO				

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit

NP	MA	WO 96/37146	11/28/96	WIPO					
	MB	WO 96/39085	12/12/96	WIPO					
	MC	WO 96/39966	12/19/96	WIPO					
	MD	WO 98/11944	03/26/98	WIPO					
	ME	WO 98/34558	08/13/98	WIPO					
	MF	WO 99/18878	04/22/99	WIPO					
	MG	WO 99/47058	09/23/99	WIPO					
NP	MH	WO 99/51149	10/14/99	WIPO					

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
NP	MI	Answer and Counterclaims of Defendant Arthrocare Corporation, filed 8/7/03, in re Smith & Nephew, Inc. v. Arthrocare Corporation (No. 03-2214 MaA, USDC, Western District of Tennessee, Western Division.
	MJ	Fine, B.S., and Yanoff, Y., Ocular Histology, 2 nd Ed., pp. 130-159, Harper & Row, Hagerstown, Maryland, 1979.
	MK	Cosman, E.R., and Cosman, B.J., "Methods of Making Nervous System Lesions," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , R.H. Wilkins and S.S. Rengachary, eds., Chapter 337, pp. 2490-2499
	ML	Elsasser et al., "An instrument for transurethral resection without leakage of current," <u>Medizinal-Markt/Acta Medico-technica</u> , Vol. 24 (4), 1976 129-134.
	MM	"Lase@... The Next Step in Conservative Therapy for Patients with Contained Herniated Discs," Clarus Medical, reprinted from http://www.clarus-medical.com/lase.htm , 5 pages
	MN	"LASE Patient Information", Clarus medical, reprinted from http://www.clarus-medical.com/lase.htm , 5 pages
	MO	Tobler et al., "Improved Outcome in the Treatment of Trigeminal Neuralgia by Percutaneous Stereostatic Rhizotomy with a New, Curved Tip Electrode," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , 12 (3), 1983, 313-317.
NP	MP	Zinn, K.M. and Mockel-Pohl, S., "The Lens and Zonules," <u>Ocular Fine Structure for the Clinician</u> , Vol. 13, No. 3, 1973, pp. 143-155

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/10/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3742

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
MP	AA	Re. 33,258	07/10/1990	Onik et al.			
	AB	4,863,430	09/05/1989	Klyce et al.			
	AC	5,084,043	01/28/1992	Hertzmann et al.			
	AD	5,195,541	03/23/1993	Obenchain			
	AE	5,285,795	02/15/1994	Ryan et al.			
	AF	5,313,962	05/24/1994	Obenchain			
MP	AG	5,948,008	09/07/1999	Daikuzono			
	AH	5,976,105	11/02/1999	Marcove et al.			

U.S. Patent Documents

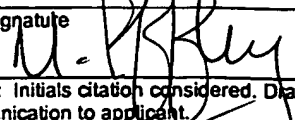
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
------------------	-----------	-----------------	------------------	----------	-------	----------	----------------------------

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
MP	AI	2 012 388	05/15/1994	Russia			Yes	
	AJ							

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)


Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
MP	AK	Surgical Dynamics, "Discography System For Contemporary Spine Surgery," copyright 1991 (2 pages).
	AL	Surgical Dynamics, "Nucleotome System Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy" (3 pages).
	AM	Surgical Dynamics, "Nucleotome Flex II For Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (2 pages).
	AN	Surgical Dynamics, "Surgical Technique Nucleotome Flex II for Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (21 pages).
	AO	Surgical Dynamics, "Nucleotome Micro I For Automated Open Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (2 pages).
	AP	Surgical Dynamics, "Surgical Technique Nucleotome Micro I for Automated Open Lumbar Discectomy," copyright 1992 (4 pages).
MP	AQ	Bernhardt, et al., "Magnetic Resonance Imaging Analysis of Percutaneous Discectomy: A Preliminary Report," <i>Spine</i> , 18(2):211-217 (Feb 1993)
	BA	Capanna, A. et al., "Lumbar Discectomy-Percentage of disc removal and detection of anterior annulus perforation," <i>Spine</i> , 6(6): 610-614 (Nov/Dec 1981)

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant Use several sheets if necessary)		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3742

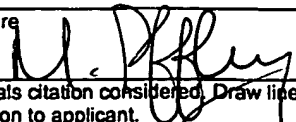
Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
MP	BB	Castro, et al., "Restriction of Indication for Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Based on Computed Tomographic Discography," <u>Spine</u> , 17(10):1239-1243 (Oct 1992)
	BC	Cooney, "Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy," <u>Clinics in Sports Medicine</u> , 12(3):557-568 (July 1993)
	BD	Davis, G.W. et al., "Automated Percutaneous Discectomy," <u>Spine</u> , 16(3):359-363, (March 1991)
	BE	Day, P.L., "Lateral Approach For Lumbar Diskogram And Chemonucleolysis," <u>Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research</u> , No. 67 (Nov/Dec 1969)
	BF	Garvin, P., et al., "Chymopapain: A Pharmacologic And Toxicologic Evaluation In Experimental Animals," Meeting of the Chicago Orthopedic Society, pp. 204-223 (May 10, 1963)
	BG	Gunzburg, et al., "An Experimental Study Comparing Percutaneous Discectomy with Chemonucleolysis," <u>Spine</u> 18(2):218-226 (Feb. 1993)
	BH	Jacobson, "Lumbar Percutaneous Discectomy," <u>Bulletin of the Hospital for Joint Diseases Orthopaedic Institute</u> , Vol. 48, no. 1 (1988)
	BI	Kahanovitz, et al., "A Multicenter Analysis of Percutaneous Discectomy," <u>Spine</u> , 15(7):713-715 (July 1990)
	BJ	Kambin, et al., "Arthroscopic Microdiscectomy versus Nucleotomy Techniques," <u>Clinics in Sports Medicine</u> , 12(3):587-598 (July 1993)
	BK	Kambin, et al., "Development of Degenerative Spondylosis of the Lumbar Spine After Partial Discectomy," <u>Spine</u> , 20(5):599-607 (March 1, 1995)
	BL	Kambin, et al., "History and Current Status of Percutaneous Arthroscopic Disc Surgery," <u>Spine</u> , 21(245):575-615 (Dec. 15, 1996)
	BM	Kambin, et al., "Percutaneous Posterolateral Discectomy: Anatomy and Mechanism," <u>Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research</u> , No. 223 (Oct. 1987)
	BN	Kaufman, H. et al., "Mechanical Aspiration Of Hematomas In An In Vitro Model," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , 25(3): 347-350 (Sept. 1989)
	BO	Kornberg, "Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy as Treatment for Lumbar Disc Disruption," <u>Spine</u> , 18(3):395-397 (March 1993)
	BP	Koutrouvelis, et al., "Stereotactic Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , 32(4):582-586 (April 1993)
	BQ	Liebler, "Percutaneous Laser Disc Decompression: Clinical Experience with the Nd:YAG and KTP Lasers," <u>Spine: State of the Art Reviews</u> , 7(1):55-65 (Jan. 1993)
	BR	Lorenz, M. et al., "Chemonucleolysis for Herniated Nucleous Pulposus In Adolescents," <u>Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery</u> , 67-A(9): 1402-1404 (Dec. 1985)
	BS	Maroon, J. et al., "Percutaneous Automate Discectomy: A New Method For Lumbar Disc Removal, Technical Note," <u>Journal of Neurosurgery</u> , 66(1): 143-146 (Jan. 1987)
	BT	Maroon, J. et al., "Percutaneous Automated Discectomy, A New Approach To Lumbar Surgery," <u>Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research</u> , No. 238, pp. 64-70 (Jan. 1989)
	BU	Maroon, et al., "Percutaneous Discectomy for Lumbar Disc Herniation," <u>Neurosurgery Clinics of North America</u> , 4(1):125-134 (Jan 1993)
MP	BV	Mayer, et al., "Percutaneous Endoscopic Laser Discectomy (PELD): A New Surgical Technique for Non-sequestered Lumbar Discs," <u>Acta Neurochirurgica</u> , Supp 54, pp. 53-58 (1992)
	CA	Mayer, "Spine Update: Percutaneous Lumbar Disc Surgery," <u>Spine</u> , 19(23):2719-2723, (Dec. 1994)

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/13/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

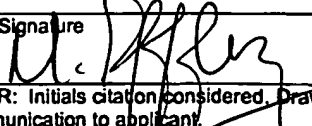
Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3742

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
HSP	CB	Mochida, et al., "Percutaneous Nucleotomy in Lumbar Disc Herniation: A Prospective Study," <u>Spine</u> , 18(14):2063-2068 (Oct. 15, 1993)
	CC	O'Laoire, S., et al., "Spinal Cord Compression Due To Prolapse Of Cervical Intervertebral Disc (Herniation Of Nucleus Pulposus)," <u>Journal of Neurosurgery</u> , 59, pp. 847-53 (1983)
	CD	Onik, G., et al., "Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Using A New Aspiration Probe: Porcine And Cadaver Model," <u>Radiology</u> , 155(1): 251-252 (Apr. 1985)
	CE	Onik, G., et al., "Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Using A New Aspiration Probe: Preliminary Results," [Journal of clinical and laboratory research,] <u>Investigative Radiology</u> , 20(6):S18 (Sept 1985)
	CF	Onik, G., et al., "Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Using A New Aspiration Probe," <u>American Journal of Roentgenology</u> , 144:1137-1140 (June 1985)
	CG	Onik, G., et al., "Automated Percutaneous Discectomy: Initial Patient Experience Work In Progress," <u>Radiology</u> , 162(1): 129-132 (Jan. 1987)
	CH	Onik, G., et al., "Automated Percutaneous Discectomy at the L5-S1 Level: Use of a Curved Cannula," <u>Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research</u> , No. 238, pp. 71-76 (Jan. 1989)
	CI	Onik, G., et al., "Automated Percutaneous Discectomy: A Prospective Multi-Institutional Study," <u>Neurosurgery</u> , 26(2):228-233 (Feb. 1990)
	CJ	Patsiaouras, et al., "Percutaneous Nucleotomy: An Anatomic Study of the Risks of Root Injury," <u>Spine</u> , 16(1):39-42 (Jan. 1991)
	CK	Plancarte et al., "Complex Regional Pain Syndrome Type 2 (Causalgia) After Automated Laser Discectomy: A Case Report," <u>Spine</u> , 22(4):459-462, (Feb. 15, 1997)
	CL	Quigley, et al., "Laser Discectomy: A Review," <u>Spine</u> 19(1):53-56 (Jan. 1, 1993)
	CM	Quigley, et al., "Percutaneous Laser Discectomy with the Ho:YAG Laser," <u>Lasers in Surgery and Medicine</u> , 12(6):621-624 (1992)
	CN	Revel, et al., "Automated Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Versus Chemonucleolysis in the Treatment of Sciatica: A Randomized Multicenter Trial," <u>Spine</u> , 18(1):1-7 (Jan. 1993)
	CO	Shevlin, W. et al., "Perforation of the Anterior Annulus During Lumbar Discectomy," <u>Journal of Neurosurgery</u> , Vol. 38, No. 4, pp. 514-515 (Apr. 1973)
HSP	CP	Sluijter, et al., "Letter To The Editor," <u>Spine</u> , 21(4):528-529 (Feb. 15, 1996)
	CQ	Smith, L. et al., "Enzyme Dissolution Of The Nucleous Pulposus," <u>Nature</u> , Vol. 198, pp. 1311-1312 (1963)
	CR	Smith, L. et al., "Enzyme Dissolution Of The Nucleous Pulposus In Humans," <u>JAMA</u> , 187(2):177-180 (Jan 1964)
	CS	Smith, L. et al., "Treatment of Lumbar Intervertebral Disc Lesions By Direct Injection Of Chymopapain," <u>Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery</u> , 49B(3): 502-519 (Aug 1967)
	CT	Sussman, B., "Intervertebral Discolysis With Collagenase," <u>Journal of the National Medical Association</u> , 60(3): 184-187 (May 1968)
HSP	CU	Sussman, B. et al., "Experimental Intervertebral Discolysis With Collagenase," <u>Journal of Neurosurgery</u> , 31: 628-635 (Dec. 1969)
	CV	Sussman, B., "Inadequacies and Hazards Of Chymopapain Injections As Treatment For Intervertebral Disc Disease," <u>Journal of Neurosurgery</u> , 42: 389-396 (Apr. 1975)

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 14170-038004	Application No. 10/712,063
Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b))		Applicant Hugh R. Sharkey et al.	
		Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3742

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
HSP	DA	Ulrich, "Automatisierte perkutane Nukleotomie," <u>Zeitschrift fur Orthopaedie und Ihre Grenzgebiete</u> , No. 130, pp. 45-50 (Jan/Feb 1992)
	DB	van Kleef, M., et al., "Percutaneous Intradiscal Radio-Frequency Thermocoagulation In Chronic Non-Specific Low Back-Pain," <u>The Pain Clinic</u> , 9(3):259-268 (1996)
	DC	Williams, R., "Microlumbar Discectomy, A Conservative Surgical Approach To The Virgin Herniated Lumbar Disc," <u>Spine</u> , 3(2): 175-182 (June 1978)
	DD	Yeo, et al., "Clinical Experience with Automated Percutaneous Discectomy," <u>Singapore Medical Journal</u> , 34(4):313-315 (Aug. 1993)
	DE	Yeung, A., "Considerations for Use of the KTP Laser for Disc Decompression and Ablation," <u>Spine: State of the Art Reviews</u> , 7(1): 67-93 (Jan 1993)
	DF	Yeung, A., "The evolution of Percutaneous Spinal Endoscopy And Discectomy: State Of The Art," <u>The Mount Sinai Journal of Medicine</u> , 67(4): 327-332 (Sept 2000)
	DG	Zhou, et al., "Percutaneous Lumbar Discectomy Using a New Nucleotome System: Report of 182 Cases," <u>Chinese Medical Journal</u> , 106(6):446-451 (June 1993)
	DH	"ArthroCare's Opening Markman Brief Regarding U.S. Patent Nos. 5,980,504 and 6,261,311," filed in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee Western Division on February 20, 2004, 31 pages
	DI	"Smith & Nephew's Opening Markman Brief for U.S. Patent Nos. 5,980,504 and 6,261,311," filed in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee Western Division on February 20, 2004, 23 pages
	DJ	"ArthroCare Corporation's Brief in Opposition to Smith & Nephew's Opening Markman Brief for U.S. Patent Nos. 5,980,504 and 6,261,311," filed in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee Western Division on March 26, 2004, 21 pages
NP	DK	"Smith & Nephew Inc.'s Opposition Markman Brief for U.S. Patent Nos. 5,980,504 and 6,261,311," filed in U.S. District Court for the Western District of Tennessee Western Division on March 26, 2004, 44 pages

Examiner Signature 	Date Considered 12/15/06
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	